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ABSTRACT

One goal of a longitudinal study of stepfamilies, divorced maternal custody families, and nondivorced families was to assess the response of children to the experiences associated with stepfamily formation and to identify factors that may buffer children against adverse life experiences or make them more vulnerable to negative outcomes. Children's adjustment was measured at three time periods over 2.5 years. Composite measures of externalizing, internalizing, and competence were created from reports of mothers, fathers, teachers, and children from interviews and 24-Hour Behavior Checklists, as well as from observational measures based on a composite of global rating scales. The results showed that boys from divorced families exhibited fewer problems over time, as they continued to adjust to life in a single-parent household, whereas girls in divorced families exhibited more problems over time. Boys in remarried families exhibited high levels of problematic behavior throughout the course of the study, while girls in remarried families showed some improvement. Levels of competent behavior were highest for children from nondivorced homes, and lowest for children from remarried homes. Girls were viewed as more competent than boys throughout this age range. Analyses were conducted to examine which factors attenuate or exacerbate problems in adaptation, with a focus on externalizing disorders. (NB)

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RESILIENCY AND VULNERABILITY IN PSYCHOSOCIAL FUNCTIONING DURING THE ADAPTATION TO REMARRIAGE

MARJORIE S. LINDNER
EDWARD R. ANDERSON

In this paper we will examine the response of children to the experiences associated with stepfamily formation, and identify factors that may buffer children against adverse life experiences or make them more vulnerable to negative outcomes. Previous research on the response of children to divorce indicates that although most children appear to undergo some initial emotional and psychosocial upheaval, competent functioning is again evident within a few years for girls and adjustment is improving in boys. Because remarriage is similar to divorce in that the main task to be resolved is in the coping with new roles and relationships associated with the restructuring of the family system, we naively expected that the initial period of turmoil following the addition of a stepfather to the home would also be followed by the recovery of stepchildren within the two and a half years of our study. For the majority of children in our sample, this was clearly not the case.

Although most of the discussion of children's adjustment in this paper will concern our own composite measure of externalizing behavior, we will introduce our presentation with an analysis of two measures with which the audience will be familiar: Achenbach's Child Behavior Checklist as rated by parents and teachers and Harter's Perceived Competence Scale as rated by teachers only.

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Differences in child outcome

As those of you familiar with Achenbach's Child Behavior Checklist know, a "clinical cut-off" score is provided for his externalizing, internalizing, and total behavior problems scales. Externalizing behavior represents problems in adjustment such as delinquency, aggression, inattention, and hyperactivity, whereas internalizing represents, social withdrawal, depression, and dependency, and total behavior problems is a composite of multiple types of behavior problems, including both internalizing and externalizing. Children who score above the clinical cutoff points are the children showing serious problems in adjustment in these areas.

Insert Table 1 about here

The first table shows the percent of children in each family group scoring above the clinical cutoff for externalizing.

Both fathers and mothers in remarried families report exceptionally high levels of externalizing behavior in sons, whereas only the stepfathers perceive stepdaughters as manifesting severe acting-out behavior. Nearly fifty percent of the sons in remarried families are rated in the clinical range, even after 2 1/2 years following remarriage. Therefore, contrary to our expectations of recovery, boys in remarried families are still functioning poorly according to their parents.

Within divorced families, boys are rated by their mothers as exhibiting levels of externalizing similar to boys in remarried families at wave one. These problems decline with time, however, and by wave three the boys from divorced families are

indistinguishable from boys in nondivorced families in externalizing behavior.

At all three waves, girls from divorced families are rated only slightly higher on externalizing behavior than girls from nondivorced families. If, however, we consider total behavior problems as shown in the next figure, mothers do report higher total behavior problems in girls from divorced families than girls from nondivorced families, with 35 percent of girls from divorced homes scoring above the clinical cut-off at wave three. This increase over time may be related to puberty and the emergent problems in self control and heterosexual relations often reported at adolescence for girls in divorced, mother-custody families. As reported previously, conflict between divorce mothers and their daughters over adolescent issues such as curfew, dating, and substance use rises substantially during this period.

Insert figure 2 about here

Discrepancies between mothers' and stepfathers' ratings of child outcome are most apparent when considering total behavior problems. Stepfathers view both stepsons and stepdaughters as having much higher behavior problems than children in nondivorced families, whereas mothers see only boys as manifesting severe disorder. Researchers such as Wallerstein and Kelly, and Robert Emery have proposed that boys may respond to family conflict and their parent's marital transitions with more externalizing disorders, whereas girls may be more likely to exhibit internalizing disorders in response to psychological distress.

However, in this study, boys in remarried families exhibited higher levels of both internalizing and externalizing disorder according to mothers and fathers. Moreover, within remarried families, both mothers and stepfathers report higher levels of both externalizing and internalizing in boys than in girls. This suggests that children of both sexes respond to family restructuring with high levels of both internalizing and externalizing behavior.

Because we were interested in children's functioning across situations in the school as well as in the family, we also solicited teachers' reports whenever possible. In contrast to parents who saw the children in remarried families as exhibiting the highest levels of behavior problems, teachers saw the children from divorced families as having the most problems initially. This difference is no longer evident at wave two, however, and the number of available teacher reports at wave three is too small to be informative. Similarly, teachers rate children from divorced families as less competent on the Harter Perceived Competence scale than children from remarried families who, in turn, are seen as less competent than children in nondivorced families. These differences do not appear to change over time, although, again, we are limited by a restricted number of teachers' reports at wave three.

Because of the sometimes discrepant reports by various informants, composite measures of externalizing, internalizing, and competence were created from reports of mothers, fathers, teachers, and children from interviews and 24-Hour Behavior

Checklists, as well as from observational measures based on a composite of global rating scales. These composites were calculated as the percentage of available measures in which the child scored above one standard deviation from the mean for each of the measures listed in the next Table. The composite measures yielded patterns similar to the ones already described. In general, boys from divorced families exhibit fewer problems over time, as they continue to adjust to life in a single-parent household, whereas girls in divorced families exhibit more problems over time. Boys in remarried families exhibit high levels of problematic behavior throughout the course of the study, while girls in remarried families show some improvement. Conversely, levels of competent behavior are highest for children from nondivorced homes, and lowest for children from remarried homes. Moreover, girls are viewed as more competent than boys throughout this age range.

Insert Table 3 about here

Despite these patterns of mean differences between boys and girls in different family types, there was great variability of scores within groups. Some children in divorced and remarried families were functioning competently and exhibiting few psychosocial problems, whereas others manifested severe and often multiple disorders. The next set of analyses to be presented focus on identifying which factors attenuate or exacerbate problems in adaptation. While these differences exist in all three of our measures of children's internalizing, externalizing, and competency because of time limitations, we will focus in this

presentation only on externalizing disorders, since externalizing is the most frequent type of psychological disorder reported in response to marital transitions. This composite measure of externalizing was used in all subsequent analyses to be reported.

Effects of compounded stress

In order to examine the effect of compounded stresses in addition to family membership that might be associated with development of externalizing behavior in adolescence, we developed a stress index based on the work of Michael Rutter and Emmy Werner which involved a set of chronic stressors over which the child had no direct control. These stressors are listed in the next Table. Because we were examining the effects of chronic stress across all three family types, we included living in a single-parent family and a recent remarriage as a single stressor. Thus, children in remarried homes are given a single additional stressor only at the first wave. Parental depression is identified as a score above one standard deviation on the Beck Depression Inventory. Conflict between current and former spouses was contingent on reports of the child's exposure to overt conflict. Conflict between current spouses and living in a chaotic household included both observational and interview assessments.

Insert Table 4 about here

Similar to the results of Rutter and Werner, the number of these stressors to which the child had been exposed was more predictive of behavior problems than any particular single stressor. Children who had three or more of these stressors were

exhibiting levels of externalizing behavior higher than one standard deviation nearly 30 percent of the time at all waves. In contrast to Rutter and Werner who identified a multiplicative increase in behavior problems at three or more stresses, our relationship remains linear even when the children with three or more stressors are not grouped together. Thus, stress in addition to the effect of living in a single-parent or remarried home appears to be responsible for the higher levels of behavior problems we observed.

Insert Table 5 about here

Comparing the effect of current levels of stress to stress experienced previously, however, shows that whereas externalizing by children in nondivorced families was predicted only by the number of stressors the child was experiencing currently, externalizing in children in nontraditional families was predicted not by contemporaneous stressors, but by earlier levels of stress. This suggests that while children in nondivorced families have the resources to overcome previous stressors, children in nontraditional families may experience prolonged effects of stress, even when the immediate crisis has passed. Moreover, the cumulative stress involved in undergoing multiple reorganizations of the family for children in stepfamilies may contribute to high levels of externalizing behavior.

Using the previous analyses as a guide, children were grouped according to the relationship between level of externalizing and level of stress. Of the children whose composite externalizing scores were below the mean, those who had

experienced a high number of stressors were termed resilient. Those who had not experienced many stressors were termed untested. Of the children whose levels of externalizing were above the mean, those who had been exposed to many stressors were termed defeated, and those whose behavior problems could not be accounted for by a high number of stressors were termed vulnerable.

Insert Table 6 about here

The next Table shows the breakdown of groups by family type at wave one, where externalizing and stressors were measured concurrently, and waves two and three where group membership is based on current externalizing and earlier stressors, since earlier stressors have the greater predictive value for children in the divorced and remarried families.

Insert Table 7 about here

As anticipated, almost all of the girls and two thirds of the boys from nondivorced families fell within the untested group at all three waves. They had been exposed to few stressors and were functioning reasonably well. About one third of the boys from nondivorced homes were in the vulnerable group. In spite of being exposed to relatively few chronic stressors, they are exhibiting behavior problems that do not disappear, even by wave three. This lend support to the frequently made claim that boys are more vulnerable to a wide range of stressful events.

The largest percentage of children from divorced and remarried families fell within the defeated group. They have succumbed to the high levels of stress to which they have been

exposed. However, there is also a substantial representation of girls from divorced homes in the resilient group, which is evident at all three waves. It appears that the functioning of some girls may be enhanced by the coping demands confronted in a one parent, mother headed household. In the later waves, girls in remarried families and eventually boys in divorced families are represented in the resilient group. However, boys from remarried families have not yet appeared in the resilient group, even by wave three.

Effects of current interactional deficits

Next, we examined the possible exacerbating effects on externalizing behavior of aversive family relations currently experienced by the child. Because the previous analyses suggest that externalizing behavior differs according to both family type and sex of child, boys and girls from divorced and remarried families were analyzed separately. Children from nondivorced families were excluded from this series of analyses as the majority had not been exposed to a high level of stress.

We looked first at factors expected to be risk factors. The next Table presents the correlations between externalizing behavior with adverse, conflictual relationships with family members; high maternal, paternal, and sibling negativity all of which are composite variables of multiple raters and observational assessments. For children in divorced families, conflictual relations with the mother is associated with higher levels of externalizing fairly consistently across all three waves. Aggressive sibling relations also correlate with higher

externalizing for boys but only in the last wave.

Insert Table 8 about here

For children in remarried families, high initial externalizing in girls correlates with conflictual, punitive relations with both parents, whereas high externalizing in boys correlates only with negativity from the new stepfather. In stepfamilies, as in the divorced, correlates with sibling negativity again appear in the last wave, for both boys and girls.

Effects of family supports

Next, the relationship between externalizing and a set of family supports expected to be protective factors was examined. The next Table shows the correlations between externalizing, supportive sibling relations, and authoritative parenting, which involves high levels of both warmth and high levels of firm, but responsive control. These are again composite indices of mother, father, child and observer ratings.

Insert Table 9 about here

The presence of an authoritative mother for girls in divorced families is associated with low levels of externalizing, as is the presence of an authoritative mother or stepfather for girls in remarried families. In contrast, boys in remarried and divorced families do not seem to receive any special benefits from authoritative parents, and while not significant, the positive correlation for an authoritative stepfather at wave one suggests that they may harmed. When the variables of warmth and control included in the authoritative ratings are examined

separately, we find that warmth from a stepfather does correlate with lower externalizing, as we might expect. A stepfather attempting to gain control, in contrast, is associated with the higher externalizing behavior. It may be that boys from remarried families may resent stepfathers moving in too rapidly to assume the role of a controlling disciplinarian, but do appear to benefit from a warm and supportive relationship. Supportive sibling relations are beneficial for boys in both divorced and remarried families, and for girls in divorced families, especially at wave one.

Effects of individual characteristics

Finally, we considered the influence of personal attributes of the child, as several models of antisocial behavior, proposed by such investigators as Garmezy and Patterson, have suggested that social and academic competence can serve as buffers against the development of antisocial behavior. The next table shows that scholastic competence is associated with lower levels of externalizing behavior for children in divorced families at later waves and social competence correlates with lower levels of externalizing for children in remarried families at early waves. This relationship of social competence and lover externalizing may be very important for remarried boys, as it is the only factor we have been able to identify as protective in either of the first two waves.

Insert Table 10 about here

Resiliency to specific stressors

Although these correlations provide helpful clues, examining

protective factors across multiple stressors fails to consider the "goodness of fit" of the buffer to the stressor. Our next interest, therefore, was in pairing specific protective factors with specific risk factors. Because of limited sample size, boys and girls within each family type were combined for these analyses.

In divorced families, for example, it was found that having an authoritative mother buffered the effects of that same mother's depression, as can be seen in the next Table.

Insert Table 11 about here

Hence, whether or not a divorced mother was depressed had no effect on the level of externalizing behavior exhibited by her child, provided she continued to function as an authoritative parent. Also, in divorced families, the adverse effect of living in poverty was buffered by not only the presence of supportive sibling relations, as shown next, but also by authoritative parenting by the mother and high scholastic achievement on the part of the child.

Insert Table 12 about here

While this scholastic competence proved to be helpful in overcoming adverse sibling relations in divorced families, authoritative parenting could not overcome these negative relations, and nothing was identified that could buffer the overwhelming effect of a hostile, rejecting mother in the divorced families.

Within remarried families, at wave one only extra-familial factors could buffer intrafamilial risk. Thus, scholastic

achievement buffered exposure to marital conflict, as seen in Table 13, and both scholastic achievement and social competence buffered aversive sibling relations. However, no buffers within the family could be found for stepfamilies in the early stages of adjustment to remarriage. Authoritative mothers could not buffer the effects of negativity from stepfathers, and authoritative stepfathers could not buffer the effects of negativity from mothers. Furthermore, neither the authoritative parenting of the stepfather nor of the biological mother could buffer the effects of a negative sibling relationship, nor any of the more chronic type stressors identified previously. This contrasts with the salient buffering effect of authoritative mothers in stablized divorced families.

Insert Tables 13 and 14 about here

Hence, in the initial stages of remarriage, children are unable to utilize resources within the family to buffer stress and may turn to supports outside the family such as successful academic or peer experiences. However, after the initial period of adjustment, positive, supportive relationships within the family can also serve as buffers against aversive family relationships. Table 15 shows how the presence of an authoritative stepfather could buffer an aversive, punitive, non-supportive relationship with the biological mother after the first year of remarriage.

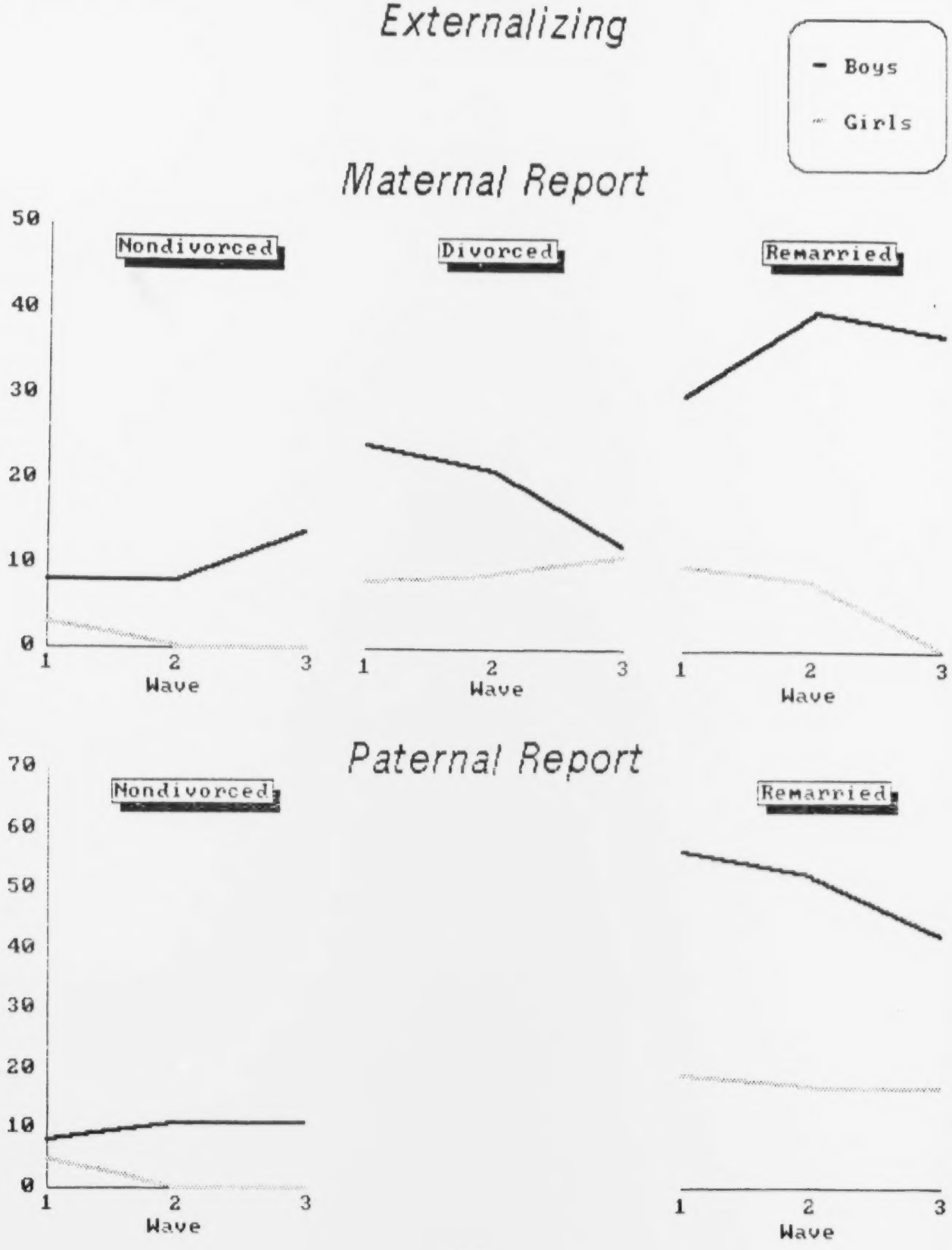
Insert Table 15 about here

Hence, while many of the stepfathers in our study are sources of conflict to their stepchildren, and others are ineffectual

parents are best, authoritative stepfathers can eventually serve to buffer children from the adverse effects of a punitive, conflictual relationship with the mother. And it may be that if this study had extended beyond the 2 1/2 year period after remarriage, we would see these children become even better able to utilize resources potentially available to them to buffer the adverse effects of stress.

Percent of children Scoring above clinical cutoff 1

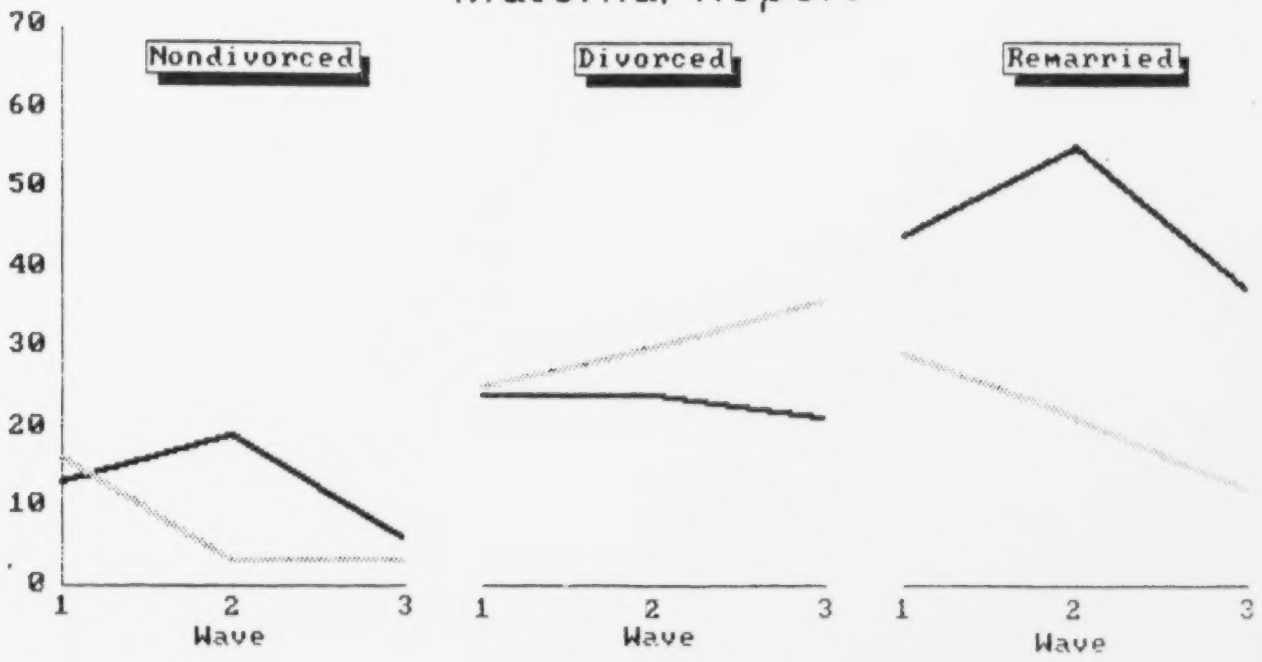
Externalizing



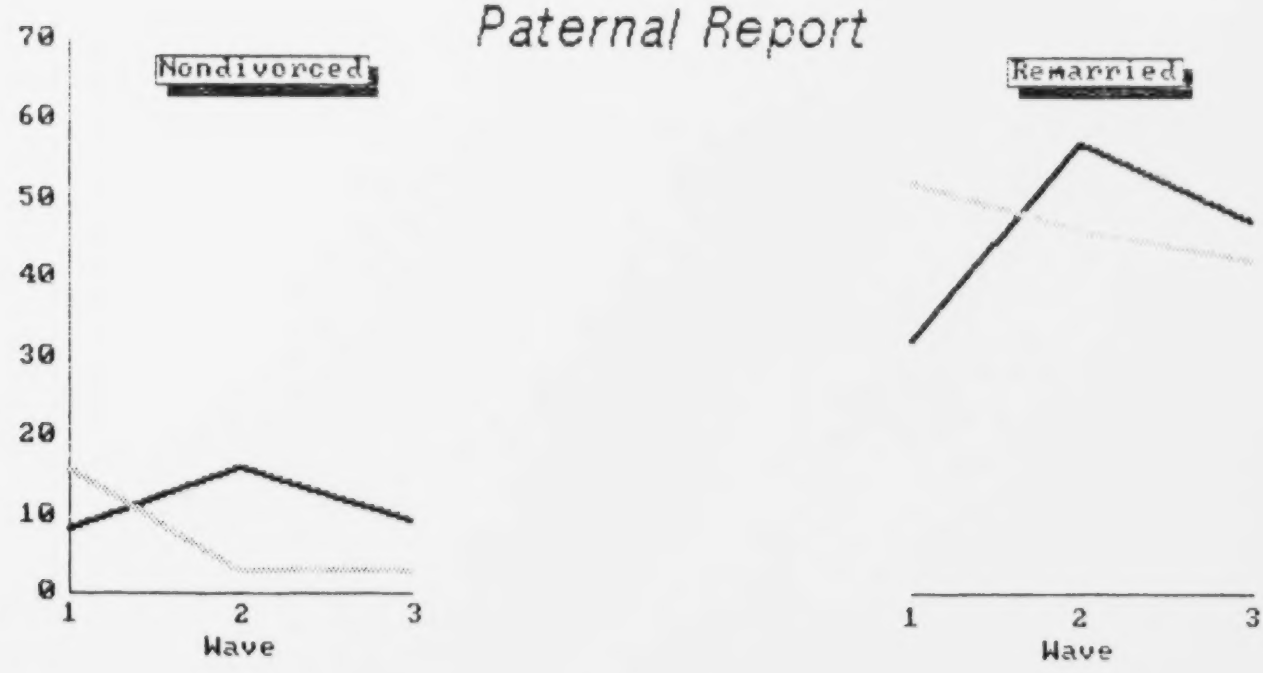
Percent of children scoring above clinical cutoff

Total Behavior Problems

Maternal Report



Paternal Report



Externalizing

--Achenbach Externalizing Subscale
Mother report
Father report
Teacher report

-- 24 Hour Behavior Checklist, Coercion scale
Mother report
Father report
Child report

-- 24-Hour Behavior Checklist, Antisocial scale
Child report

-- Observed Antisocial Rating
Child to Mother
Child to Father

-- Observed Negativity Composite Rating
Child to Mother
Child to Father

Internalizing

-- Achenbach Internalizing Subscale
Mother report
Father report
Teacher report

-- 24-Hour Behavior Checklist, Depression scale
Mother report
Father report
Child report

-- Observed Shy/Withdrawn Composite Rating
Child to Mother
Child to Father

Competence

-- Achenbach Social Competence Scale:
Mother report
Father report

-- Harter Social Competence Scale
Teacher report

-- 24-Hour Behavior Checklist, Prosocial scale
Mother report
Father report
Child report

-- Observed Prosocial rating
Child to Mother
Child to Father

-- Observed Positivity Composite rating
Child to Mother
Child to Father

Factors in the Stress Index

-- Living in a single-parent home

-- Custodial parent recently remarried

-- Poverty

-- Maternal Depression

-- Paternal Depression

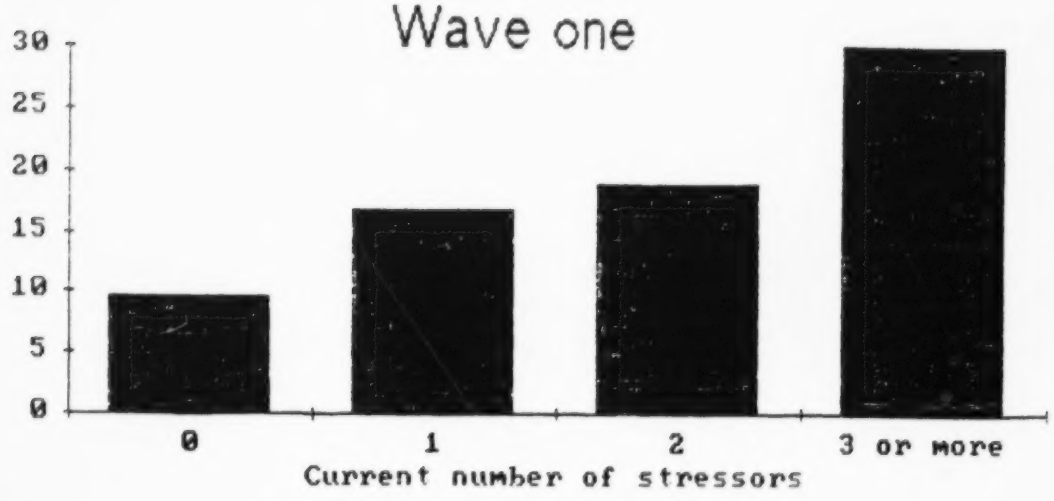
-- Continuing Animosity between Former Spouses

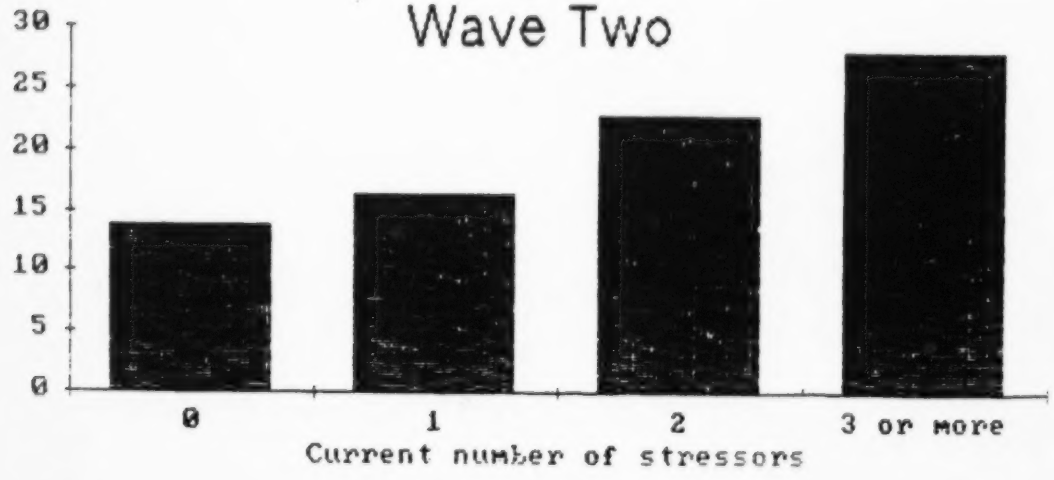
-- Child exposed to high marital conflict

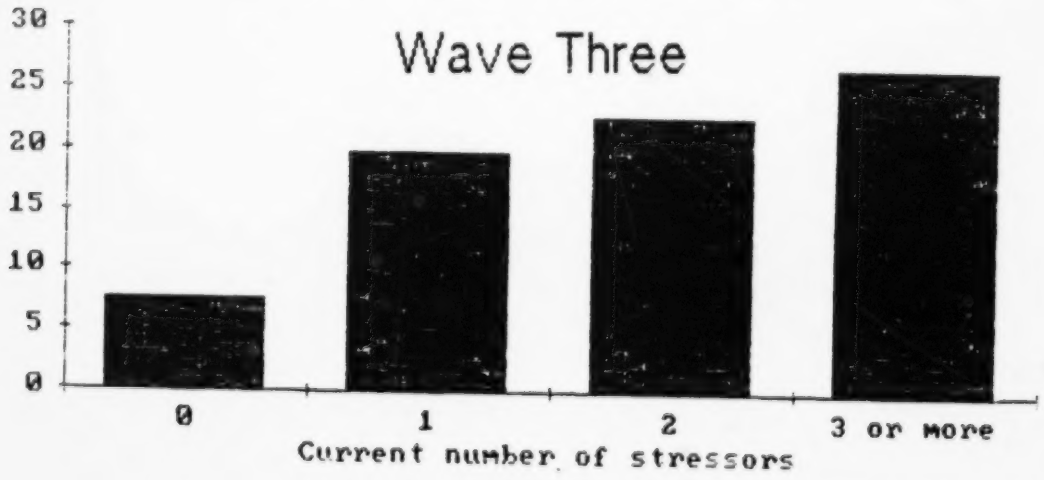
-- Chaotic or disorganized household

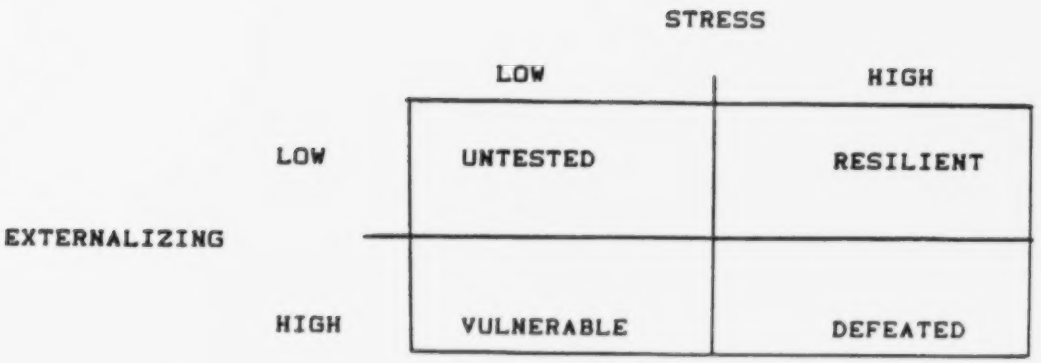
Level of externalizing
By number of stressors

5








STRESS
LOW
HIGH
EXTERNALIZING
LOW
HIGH
UNTESTED
RESILIENT
VULNERABLE
DEFEATED

		LOW STRESS		HIGH STRESS	
		UNTESTED	VULNERABLE	RESILIENT	DEFEATED
WAVE ONE					
NONDIVORCED	BOYS	22	15	0	1
	GIRLS	26	9	2	0
DIVORCED	BOYS	4	5	7	17
	GIRLS	2	4	13	17
REMARRIED	BOYS	4	6	4	13
	GIRLS	8	7	4	12
WAVE TWO					
NONDIVORCED	BOYS	23	13	0	1
	GIRLS	25	9	2	0
DIVORCED	BOYS	5	2	3	20
	GIRLS	1	5	12	16
REMARRIED	BOYS	0	0	3	20
	GIRLS	0	0	14	13
WAVE THREE					
NONDIVORCED	BOYS	17	11	4	3
	GIRLS	20	8	4	1
DIVORCED	BOYS	2	1	10	11
	GIRLS	1	3	9	15
REMARRIED	BOYS	0	0	4	15
	GIRLS	0	0	9	16

CORRELATIONS OF CONFLICTUAL FAMILY RELATIONS WITH EXTERNALIZING BEHAVIOR

WAVE:	ONE				TWO				THREE			
	DIVORCED		REMARRIED		DIVORCED		REMARRIED		DIVORCED		REMARRIED	
	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL
MOTHER NEGATIVE	52•	69•	26	42•	27	32•	29	44•	35•	73•	13	24
FATHER NEGATIVE	--	--	39•	23	--	--	38•	55•	--	--	22	04
SIBLING NEGATIVE	30	10	14	29	27	12	24	48•	42•	27	64•	54•

CORRELATIONS OF SUPPORTIVE FAMILY RELATIONS WITH EXTERNALIZING BEHAVIOR

WAVE:	ONE				TWO				THREE			
	DIVORCED		REMARRIED		DIVORCED		REMARRIED		DIVORCED		REMARRIED	
	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL
MOTHER AUTHORITATIVE	-10	-29•	-03	-05	-25	-15	-06	-07	12	-34•	-25	-34•
FATHER AUTHORITATIVE	--	--	19	-14	--	--	-23	-42•	--	--	-21	-41•
SIBLING POSITIVE	-37•	-32•	-38•	13	08	10	-14	-22	-08	-19	-61•	-26

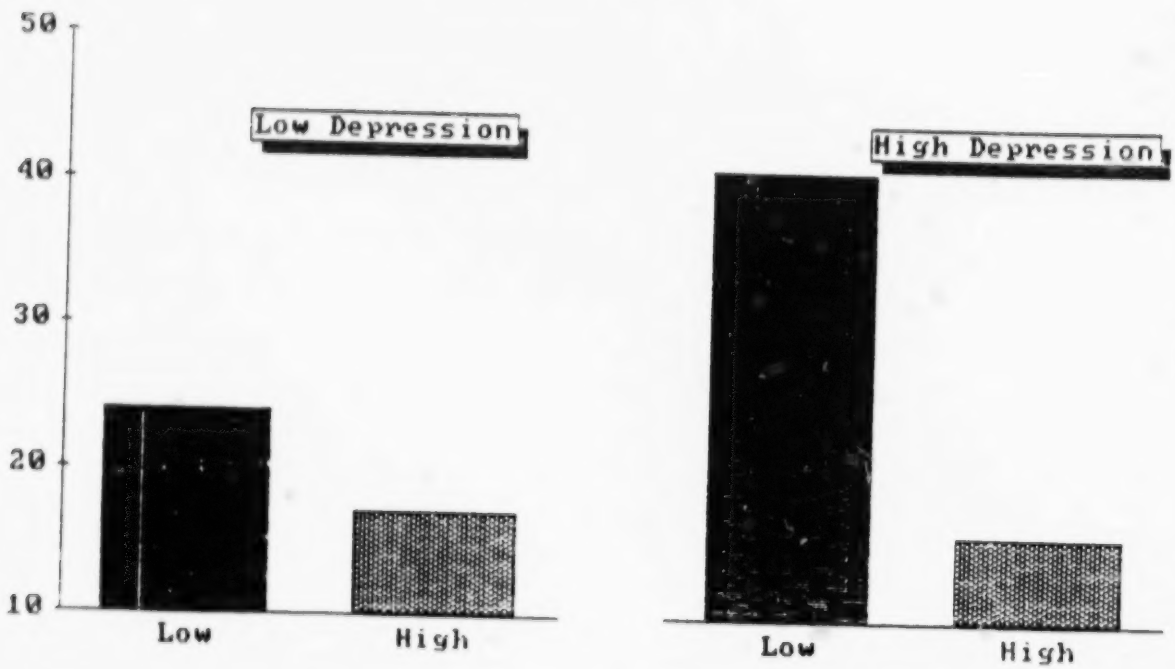
CORRELATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL FACTORS WITH EXTERNALIZING BEHAVIOR

WAVE:	ONE				TWO				THREE			
	DIVORCED		REMARRIED		DIVORCED		REMARRIED		DIVORCED		REMARRIED	
	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL	BOY	GIRL
SCHOLASTIC COMPETENCE	-29	-15	-31	-29	-27	-32•	-10	0	-39•	-21	11	06
SOCIAL COMPETENCE	-16	-26	-49•	-31	-06	-24	-40•	-29	20	-09	01	-15

Buffering Effects

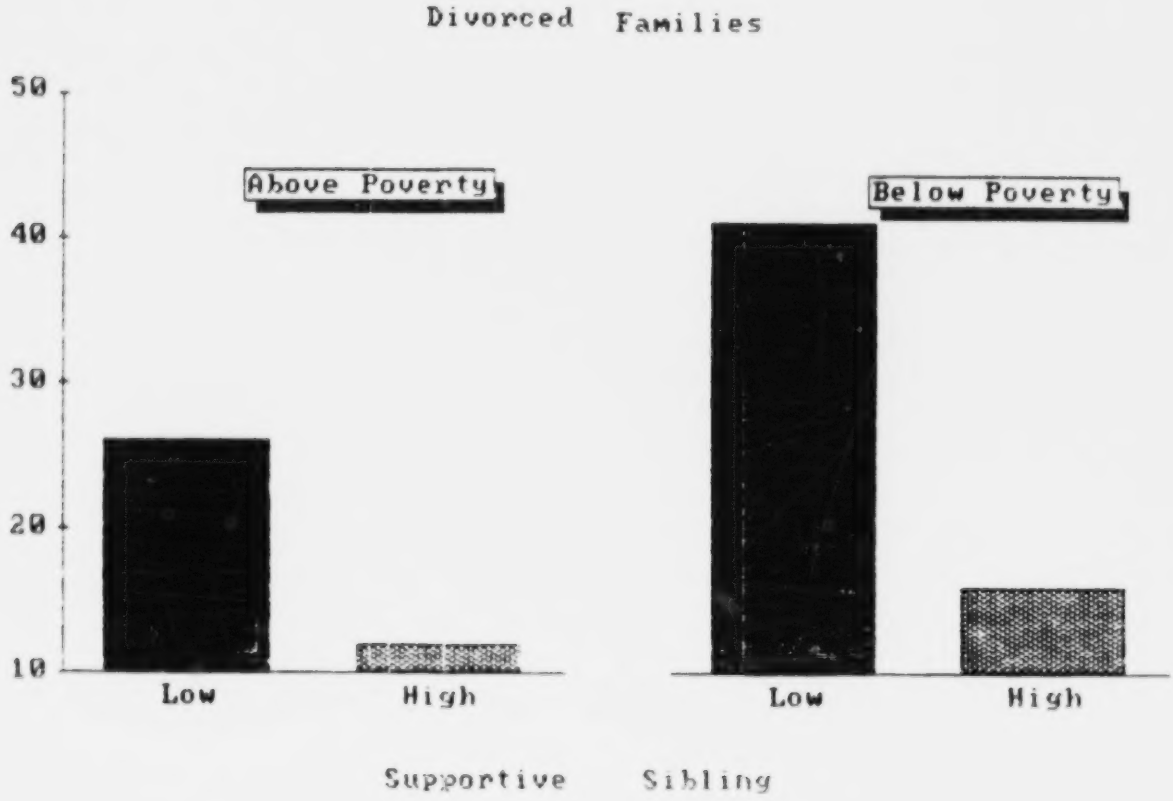
on externalizing behavior

Divorced Mothers

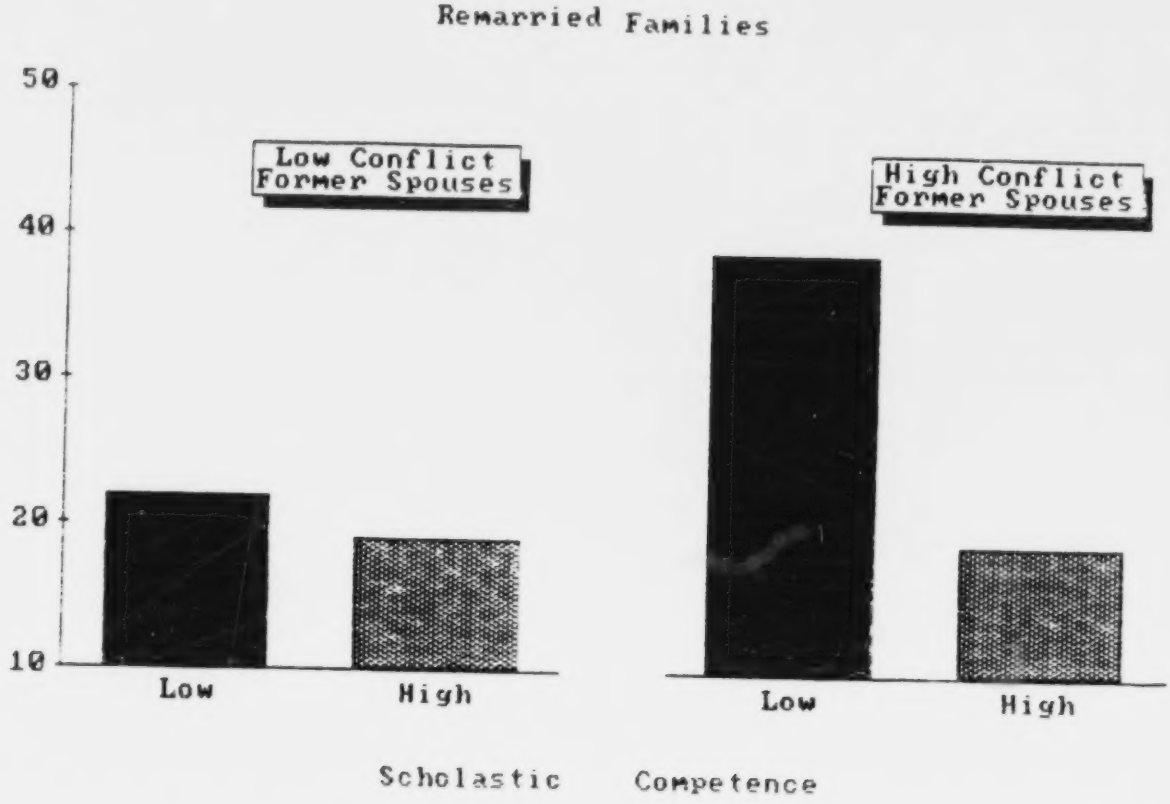


Authoritative Parenting

Buffering Effects



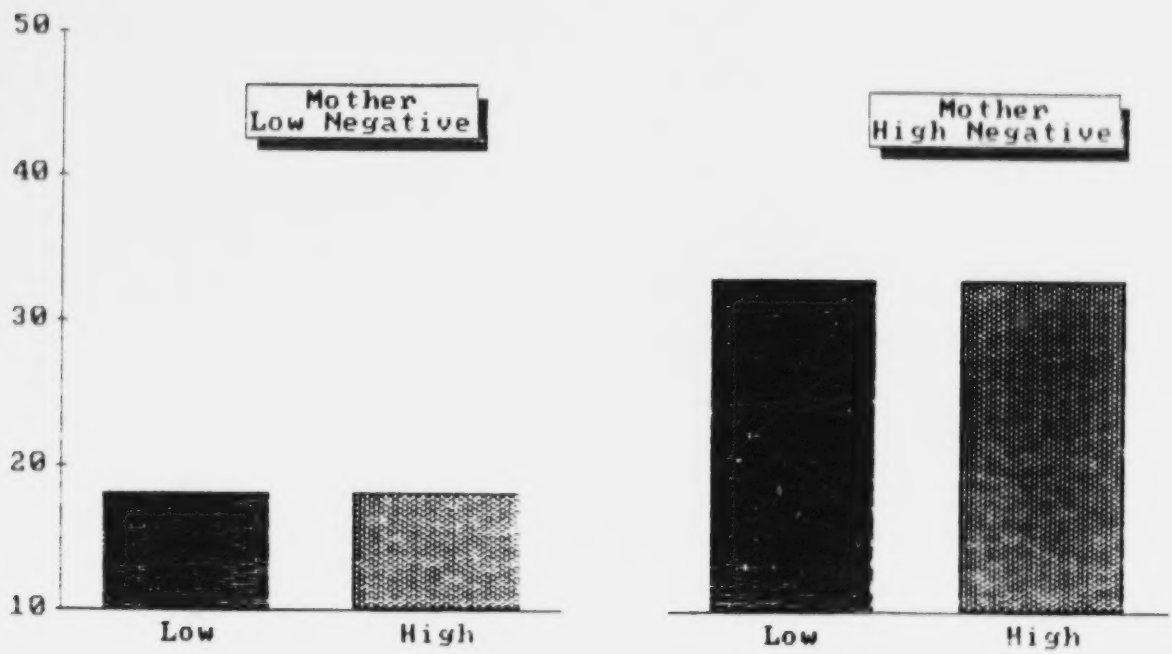
Buffering Effects



Buffering Effects

on externalizing behavior

Remarried Families

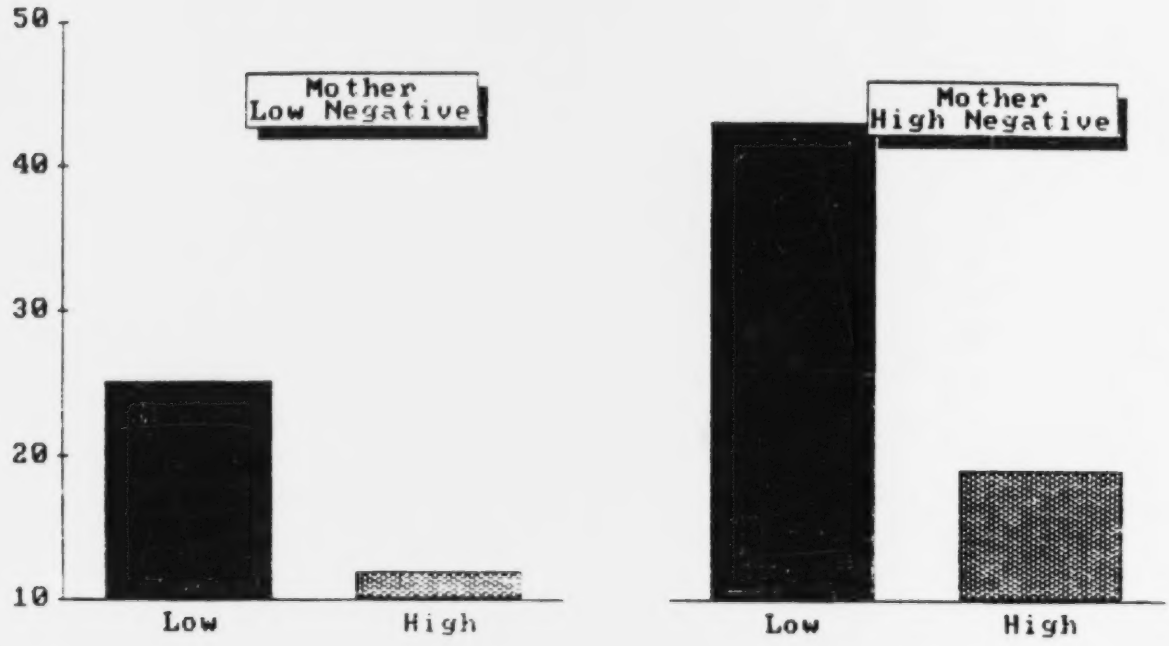


Authoritative Stepfather

Buffering Effects

on externalizing behavior

Remarried Families



Authoritative Stepfather

-- Living in a single-parent home

-- Custodial parent recently remarried

-- Maternal Depression

Indicated by a score greater than one standard deviation above the sample mean on the Beck Depression Inventory

-- Paternal Depression

As defined above

-- Continuing Animosity between Former Spouses

Child or mother reports exposure of the child to conflict between former spouses at least "sometimes."

At least 3 of the following are reported by the mother in regard to her former spouse:

-- We get along . . "not well at all"
-- I "hate him"
-- We disagree "once a month or more"
-- "considerable disagreement\animosity"
-- "Much disagreement" about
:custody
:visitation
:child support
:alimony and property settlement
:current marriage
:ex-spouses intimate relationships

-- Child exposed to high marital conflict

Mother, father, or child reports exposure of child to conflict.

Score greater than one standard deviation above the mean on at least one of the following:

-- Wife's report of conflict (Spanier)
-- Husband's report of conflict (Spanier)
-- Wife's Negativity to Husband: Observed
-- Husband's Negativity to Wife: Observed

-- Poverty

Yearly household income less than $2,750 per family member

-- Chaotic or disorganized household

Observed family rating "chaotic."

Or parents report at least four of the following:

-- Bedtime "differs from night to night"
-- Dinnertime "differs from night to night"
-- Family members eat dinner "at different times"
-- A chaotic score on the Moos Family Environment Scale

MOTHER NEGATIVE

CONFLICT, DAILY ROUTINES; MOTHER REPORT
CONFLICT, DAILY ROUTINES; CHILD REPORT
CONFLICT, ADOLESCENT ISSUES; MOTHER REPORT
CONFLICT, ADOLESCENT ISSUES; CHILD REPORT
PUNITIVE DISCIPLINE; MOTHER REPORT
PUNITIVE DISCIPLINE; CHILD REPORT
NEGATIVITY TO CHILD, COMPOSITE; OBSERVED

FATHER NEGATIVE

CONFLICT, DAILY ROUTINES; FATHER REPORT
CONFLICT, DAILY ROUTINES; CHILD REPORT
CONFLICT, ADOLESCENT ISSUES; FATHER REPORT
CONFLICT, ADOLESCENT ISSUES; CHILD REPORT
PUNITIVE DISCIPLINE; FATHER REPORT
PUNITIVE DISCIPLINE; CHILD REPORT
NEGATIVITY TO CHILD, COMPOSITE; OBSERVED

SIBLING NEGATIVE

SIBLING AGGRESSION; MOTHER REPORT
SIBLING AGGRESSION; FATHER REPORT
SIBLING AGGRESSION; CHILD REPORT
SIBLING RIVALRY; MOTHER REPORT
SIBLING RIVALRY; FATHER REPORT
SIBLIGN NEGATIVITY, COMPOSITE; OBSERVED

MOTHER AND FATHER AUTHORITATIVE

A PARENT MUST SCORE ABOVE ONE STANDARD DEVIATION
ON BOTH WARMTH AND CONTROL SCALES:

WARMTH SCALES

-- EXPRESSIVE AFFECTION
   SELF REPORT
   CHILD REPORT
-- POSITIVITY TO CHILD, COMPOSITE
   OBSERVED

-- INSTRUMENTAL AFFECTION
   SELF REPORT
   CHILD REPORT

-- RAPPORT
   SELF REPORT
   SPOUSAL REPORT

CONTROL SCALES

-- PERCEIVED CONTROL: CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
   SELF REPORT
   SPOUSAL REPORT
   CHILD REPORT

-- PERCEIVED CONTROL: DEVIANCE
   SELF REPORT
   SPOUSAL REPORT
   CHILD REPORT

-- MONITOR: CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
   SELF REPORT
   SPOUSAL REPORT
   CHILD REPORT

-- MONITOR: DEVIANCE
   SELF REPORT
   SPOUSAL REPORT
   CHILD REPORT

-- CONTROL OVER CHILD, COMPOSITE
   OBSERVED

SIBLING POSITIVE

-- SIBLING COMPANIONSHIP:
   MOTHER REPORT
   FATHER REPORT
   CHILD REPORT
-- SIBLING POSITIVITY, COMPOSITE
   OBSERVED

-- SIBLING EMPATHY:
   MOTHER REPORT
   FATHER REPORT
   CHILD REPORT

SCHOLASTIC COMPETENCE

-- HARTER SCHOLASTIC COMPETENCE; TEACHER REPORT
-- COGNITIVE AGENCY; MOTHER REPORT
-- COGNITIVE AGENCY; FATHER REPORT
-- COGNITIVE AGENCY; CHILD REPORT
-- ACHENBACH SCHOLASTIC COMPETENCE; MOTHER REPORT
-- ACHENBACH SCHOLASTIC COMPETENCE; FATHER REPORT

SOCIAL COMPETENCE

-- HARTER SOCIAL COMPETENCE; TEACHER REPORT
-- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY; MOTHER REPORT
-- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY; FATHER REPORT
-- SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY; CHILD REPORT
-- ACHENBACH SOCIAL COMPETENCE; MOTHER REPORT
-- ACHENBACH SOCIAL COMPETENCE; FATHER REPORT